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Tomohiko Sakatani

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EXAMINER

ATALA, JAMIE JO

ART UNIT

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/530,227	Applicant(s) SAKATANI, TOMOHIKO	
	Examiner JAMIE JO ATALA	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 March 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 4/4/05 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-24 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Tomita et al (US 6,732,372).

[claim 1]

In regard to Claim 1, Tomita et al discloses a data processor connected to a network, to which a database and a server are also connected,

- the database being provided to store program specific information, which is made up of a number of parameters to designate a particular program (Figure 3 element 31 shows the database as described in Column 6 Lines 54+);
- the server being provided to search the program specific information in the database by reference to a search request searching thereby extracting at least one of the parameters (Column 6 Lines 54+ describes the server extracting parameters);
- the data processor comprising: an interfacing section for outputting a command on a program to be recorded based on the user operation (Figure 16b and 18);
- a control section for transmitting the search request searching to the server and receiving a parameter that has been extracted by the server (Figure 16b); and

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- a recording section for recording the received parameter and the program to be recorded on a storage medium so that the parameter and the program are associated with each other (Figure 16b shows the received parameter/category that is used to store for tagging and efficient recording purposes).

[claim 2]

In regard to Claim 2, Tomita et al discloses a data processor wherein the database stores, as the parameters, title information representing the title of a program, and date/time information showing scheduled broadcasting_date and time of the program, and wherein the interfacing section gets, as a parameter on the program to be recorded, date/time information represented by a specified time and outputs the date/time information with the_data, information on the broadcast date and time of the program to be recorded, and wherein the control section further transmits the parameter as a search key to the server and receives the title information that has been extracted by the server by reference to the search request and the search_key. (Column 7 Lines 26-56).

[claim 3]

In regard to Claim 3, Tomita et al discloses a data processor wherein the interfacing section gets and outputs the date/time information specifying a predetermined period, as a parameter on the program to be recorded, and wherein the control section receives the title information of programs to be broadcast during the predetermined period (Column 78 Lines 25-67).

[claim 4]

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In regard to Claim 4, Tomita et al discloses a data processor of claim 3, wherein the recording section records the title information of the programs and the programs themselves during the predetermined period so that the programs and the title information are associated with each other (Column 7 Lines 25-67 describe the recording of the predetermined period).

[claim 5]

In regard to Claim 5, Tomita et al discloses a data processor wherein the database stores, as the parameters, title information representing the title of a program and date/time information showing scheduled broadcasting date and time of the program, wherein the ~ interfacing section gets, as a parameter on the program to be recorded, date/time information represented by a specified time and outputs the date/time information with the command, and wherein the control section further transmits the parameter as the search key to the server and receives the title information of a program to be broadcast during a broadcasting period including the specified time (Column 7 Lines 25+).

[claim 6]

In regard to Claim 6, Tomita et al discloses a data processor wherein the control section receives parameters specifying start and end times of the broadcasting period of the program from the server, and wherein the recording section records the title information of the program and the program itself during the broadcasting period, specified by the parameters, so that the program and the title information are associated with each other (Column 8 Lines 1-65).

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[claim 7]

In regard to Claim 7, Tomita et al discloses a data processor wherein the database further stores an identifier, which identifies each said program from the other programs, as another parameter making up the program specific information, and wherein the control section receives not only the title information of the program but also the identifier thereof, transmits the identifier to the server before the predetermined period begins so as to receive the date/time information of the program, having the identifier, from the server, and determines whether or not the received date/time information shows the same period of time as the predetermined period, and wherein if the date/time information shows the same period of time as the predetermined period, then the recording section records the title information of the program and the program itself during the predetermined period (Column 7 Lines 30-67).

[claim 8]

In regard to Claim 8, Tomita et al discloses a data processor wherein the database further stores an identifier, which identifies each said program from the other programs, as another parameter making up the program specific information, and wherein the control section receives not only the title information of the program but also the identifier thereof, transmits the identifier to the server before the predetermined period begins so as to receive the date/time information of the program, having the identifier, from the server, and determines whether or not the received date/time information shows the same period of time as the predetermined period, and wherein unless the date/time information shows the same period of time as the predetermined period, the

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predetermined period is changed in accordance with updated date/time information that has been obtained after the identifier was transmitted (Column 7 Lines 30-61).

[claim 9]

In regard to Claim 9, Tomita et al discloses a data processor wherein the database further stores additional information on at least one of the contents, performers and category of the program as another parameter, and wherein the control section receives the additional information that has been further extracted by the server by reference to the search request (Column 8 Lines 44+ through Column 9 Lines 1-39).

[claim 10]

In regard to Claim 10, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method for use in a data processor connected to a network, to which a database and at least one server are also connected, the database being provided to store program specific information, which is made up of a number of parameters to designate a particular program, the at least one server being provided to search the program specific information in the database by reference to a search_request thereby extracting at least one of the parameters, the method comprising the steps of: receiving the search request on a program to be recorded from the user; transmitting the search request to the server and receiving a parameter that has been extracted by the server; and recording the received parameter and the program to be recorded on a storage medium so that the parameter and the program are associated with each other (Column 7 Lines 20+ describes the searching of data).

[claim 11]

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In regard to Claim 11, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method of claim 10, wherein the database stores, as the parameters, title information representing the title of a program and date/time information showing rescheduled broadcasting date and time of the program, and wherein the step of receiving the search_request includes getting, as a parameter on the program to be recorded, date/time information represented by a specified time and outputs the date/time information with the_data, and wherein the step of receiving the parameter includes receiving the title information that has been extracted by the server by reference to the search request and the search key (Column 7 Lines 26-56 describes the title information and searching of data).

[claim 12]

In regard to Claim 12, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method wherein the step of receiving the searching data includes getting date/time information specifying a predetermined period, as a parameter on the program to be recorded, and wherein the step of receiving the parameter includes receiving the title information of programs to be broadcast during the predetermined period (Column 14 Lines 38-67 describes the parameter associated with title information).

[claim 13]

In regard to Claim 13, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method wherein the step of recording includes recording the title information of the programs and the programs themselves during the predetermined period so that the programs and the title information are associated with each other (Column 7 Lines 26-56 describes the predetermined period of programs for recording based on title information).

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[claim 14]

In regard to Claim 14, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method wherein the database stores, as the parameters, title information representing the title of a program and date/time information showing scheduled broadcasting date and time of the program, wherein the step of receiving the search_includes getting, as a parameter on the program to be recorded, date/time information represented by a specified time, and wherein the step of receiving the parameter includes receiving the title information of a program during a broadcasting period, represented by the specified_time and wherein the step of receiving the parameter includes the title information of a program during a broadcast period represented by specified time (Column 7 Lines 29+).

[claim 15]

In regard to Claim 15, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method wherein the step of receiving the parameter includes receiving parameters specifying start and end times of the broadcasting period of the program from the server, and wherein the step of recording includes recording the title information of the program and the program itself during the broadcasting period, specified by the parameters, so that the program and the title information are associated with each other (Column 7 Lines 29+ describes the receiving of parameters).

[claim 16]

In regard to Claim 16, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method wherein the database further stores an identifier, which identifies each said program from the other programs, as another parameter making up the program specific information, and

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wherein the step of receiving the parameter includes the steps of: receiving not only the title information of the program but also the identifier thereof; transmitting the identifier to the server before the predetermined period begins so as to receive the date/time information of the program, having the identifier, from the server; and determining whether or not the received date/time information shows the same period of time as the predetermined period, and wherein if the date/time information shows the same period of time as the predetermined period, then the step of recording includes recording the title information of the program and the program itself during the predetermined period (Column 7 Lines 29+).

[claim 17]

In regard to Claim 17, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method wherein the database further stores an identifier, which identifies each said program from the other programs, as another parameter making up the program specific information, and wherein the step of receiving the parameter includes the steps of: receiving not only the title information of the program but also the identifier thereof; transmitting the identifier to the server before the predetermined period begins so as to receive the date/time information of the program, having the identifier, from the server; and determining whether or not the received date/time information shows the same period of time as the predetermined period, and wherein unless the date/time information shows the same period of time as the predetermined period, the step of receiving the parameter further includes the step of changing the predetermined period in accordance with updated

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date/time information that has been obtained after the identifier was transmitted (Column 7 Lines 29+ describes the date and time).

[claim 18]

In regard to Claim 18, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method wherein the database further stores additional information on at least one of the contents, performers and category of the program as another parameter, and wherein the step of receiving the parameter includes receiving the additional information that has been further extracted by the server by reference to the searching data (Figure 16c).

[claim 19]

In regard to Claim 19, Tomita et al discloses a data processor of claim 5, wherein the database stores, as one of the parameters, broadcaster information identifying a broadcaster, wherein the interfacing section further receives and outputs the broadcaster information of the program to be recorded, and wherein the control section further transmits the broadcaster information as a search key to the server, and receives title information of the program to be broadcast by the broadcaster identified by the broadcaster information (Figure 16b).

[claim 20]

In regard to Claim 20, Tomita et al discloses a data processor wherein the interfacing section outputs the command to start recording the program now being broadcast based on the user operation (Figure 16c).

[claim 21]

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In regard to Claim 21, Tomita et al discloses a data processing method of claim 14, wherein the database stores, as one of the parameters, broadcaster information identifying a broadcaster, wherein the step of receiving further receives the broadcaster information of the program to be recorded, wherein the step of transmitting further transmits the broadcaster information as a search key to the server, and wherein the step of receiving title information of the program to be broadcast by the broadcaster identified by the broadcaster information (Column 14 Lines 65+ through Column 15 Lines 1-67).

[claim 22]

In regard to Claim 22, Tomita et al discloses a data processor of claim 14, wherein the step of receiving receives the command to start recording the program now being broadcast based on the user operation (Figure 16c).

[claim 23]

In regard to Claim 23, claim limitations have been discussed in Claim 1.

[claim 24]

In regard to Claim 24, claim limitations have been discussed in Claim 1.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMIE JO ATALA whose telephone number is (571)272-7384. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-5:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/JAMIE JO ATALA/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2621